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The Hongkong Telegraph.

Allies Divide Up Italian Navy

Armed Arabs Moving Into Palestine

15,000 Cross Border

Jerusalem, Feb. 8.—Approximately 15,000 uniformed and equipped troops from the Arab states have crossed into Palestine, according to estimates gathered in scraps from points where these forces are concentrated.

One or two truckloads of the Syrian trained troops cross the frontier daily, 300 to 500 fighting men per week.

They appear to be massing more for attack than defence, at points from which they might dash in two the United Nations proposed Jewish state. This would wedge Jewish defences into two triangular areas, one around Tel-Aviv and the other around Haifa.

In Jerusalem there has been talk that the Arabs have set February 15 as "D Day" to start their attack. At the places where the troops are concentrated no talk is heard of this or any other fixed date.

Up to now the Arab operations have been gathering trained troops and assembling arms and other equipment.

MORE CASUALTIES

Five Jews and four Arabs died by gunfire in Palestine today.

Three Arabs were killed by British soldiers returning fire from both Arab and Jewish snipers in Haifa.

Two Jews were killed by snipers in Holon. An 11-year-old Jewish boy was killed by a sniper's bullet on the Tel-Aviv-Haifa frontier. Another Jew was shot to death in the Rehoboth area and a fifth died in an attack on a food and gasoline convoy near Hattay.

An Arab wounded earlier in a bus attack in the Gaza region has died. The unofficial death toll since the United Nations voted to partition Palestine rose to 1,008. Associated Press.

Prospects Of Good Crops

London, Feb. 8.—A mild winter has tempered European misery and given promise of bumper crops in repayment for last year's suffering.

Nowhere has there been the intense hardship of last winter—the worst Europe has experienced in this century.

Abundant rainfall has accompanied abnormally high temperatures. The moisture raised prospects for harvests that in some countries may equal those of before the war.—Associated Press.

EDITORIAL

Schools Broadcasts

THE decision to invite Mr Lloyd-Williams, formerly of the BBC, to come to Hongkong for a brief visit in order to give us the benefit of his knowledge and experience on schools broadcasts, was a welcome display of enterprise on the part of the Colony's broadcasting authorities. Equally commendable was the thoughtful and painstaking report which Mr Lloyd-Williams presented to the Broadcasting Advisory Committee, and upon which it is to be hoped, Government will take some positive action. The dispensing of education to schoolchildren by means of the radio is no longer a novelty. The BBC pioneered it, and since then many countries, notably Australia and Canada, have developed to a high degree this use of the radio. It is a form of general knowledge instruction that can be equally as beneficial to Hongkong students as it has proved itself to be in other parts of the world, and every encouragement should be given to the project. Mr Lloyd-Williams, whose vast experience of schools broadcasting entitles his opinion to the fullest measure of respect, is insistent on one point: if Hongkong is to adopt schools broadcasts as an additional part of our students' education, it must be done thoroughly. There must be nothing slanted,

No "Telegraph" For Two Days

Because of the Chinese New Year holidays, there will be no publication of the Hongkong Telegraph tomorrow (Tuesday) or on Wednesday.

Publication will resume on Thursday.

The South China Morning Post will appear as usual tomorrow morning, but will not publish again until Friday morning.

Australian Eggs For Britain

London, Feb. 8.—The Ministry of Food announced today that the United Kingdom food mission at present in Australia has concluded its discussions with the Commonwealth authorities on eggs.

Heads of agreement have been agreed covering a period of five years, beginning July 1, 1948.

The agreement provides for increased production in Australia and for the shipment of increased supplies of shell eggs to the United Kingdom in the latter part of each year when European production is at its lowest.

Provision is also made for a substantial increase in the shipment of frozen and dried eggs.

The new agreement should mean gradually increasing quantities, reaching a peak of seven or eight eggs per person in the winter of 1950 or 1951, equal to about 375,000,000 eggs, the Ministry stated.

New Year Aid For Shai Factories

Shanghai, Feb. 8.—A total of C\$210,000,000,000 is expected to have been issued by national banks tonight in connection with the Government scheme of purchasing finished products of local factories to help them to tide over the Lunar New Year settlement.

This purchasing scheme was devised following the decision of the authorities to suspend the issue of industrial loans until after the Lunar New Year.

Up to last night purchases to the amount of C\$130,000,000,000 have already been authorized.

The local manufacturers who took advantage of the purchasing plan were mostly those connected with iron and steel machinery, cement, cotton spinning and weaving, and pharmaceutical industries.—Reuter.

Navy End Of A Mighty Fleet

Rome, Feb. 8.—The final allotment of warships of the once proud Italian Navy to the Allied powers was announced tonight by the Italian Government on the decision of the "Big Four" Naval Commission.

On paper, they are to be handed over to Britain, the United States, France, Russia, Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania, but Britain and the United States, have already announced that they will not take the warships allocated to them.

Instead, these warships will be scrapped in Italian shipyards.

Under the allocation, Russia gets the greatest number of ships, including the famous battleship Giulio Cesare, 23,622 tons, and the cruiser Emanuele Filiberto, Duca D'Aosta, 7,233 tons. Two other battleships were allocated, one each, to Britain and the United States—the 35,000-ton Vittorio Veneto to Britain, and the 35,000-ton Italia to the United States.

France gets three cruisers, as well as destroyers, and other crafts. Greece receives a cruiser, Yugoslavia three torpedo boats and seven minesweepers, and Albania a gunboat—her total allotment.

The allocation of the fleet followed long deliberations in Rome by the "Big Four" Naval Commission, on which Britain, the United States, France and Russia are represented.

No indication has been given to when, and how, the ships are to be handed over. It has frequently been suggested that, as some of the ships are in need of repair, they should be put into condition and then handed over in Italian shipyards piecemeal, thus avoiding the humiliation, to Italy, of an official ceremony and the hauling down of the national flag.

THE ALLOCATIONS

The allocations were: Great Britain: the 35,000-ton battleship Vittorio Veneto, the submarine Albatros (455 tons), Albatros (1,650 tons), eight torpedo boats, three landing craft, two water carriers, one of 592 tons, the depot ship Antea (1,252 tons), the auxiliary minelayer Fasana (542 tons), the transport Giuseppe Messina (tonnage not known), six large tugs, including one of 226 tons, and three small tugs.

Russia: the 23,622-ton battleship Giulio Cesare, the 7,233-ton cruiser Emanuele Filiberto, Duca D'Aosta, the destroyers Artigliere and Fuciliere (1,620 tons) and Augusto Riboty (1,593 tons), the torpedo boats Annunzio and Arismondo (865 tons each), and the Fortunate (950 tons), the submarines Marea (1,068 tons) and Nibelio (865 tons), 10 motor torpedo boats, three vedettes (coastal craft), three landing craft, the tanker Stige (1,343 tons), four water carriers, including one of 2,900 tons, the training ship Cristoforo Colombo (2,787 tons), one transport (tonnage not known), eight large tugs, including one of 389 tons, and four small tugs.

The United States: the 35,000-ton battleship Italia, the submarines Dandolo (1,317 tons) and Platino (865 tons), eight motor torpedo boats, three landing craft, the Fortunate (950 tons), two water carriers, one of 2,900 tons, six large tugs, one of 226 tons, and three small tugs.

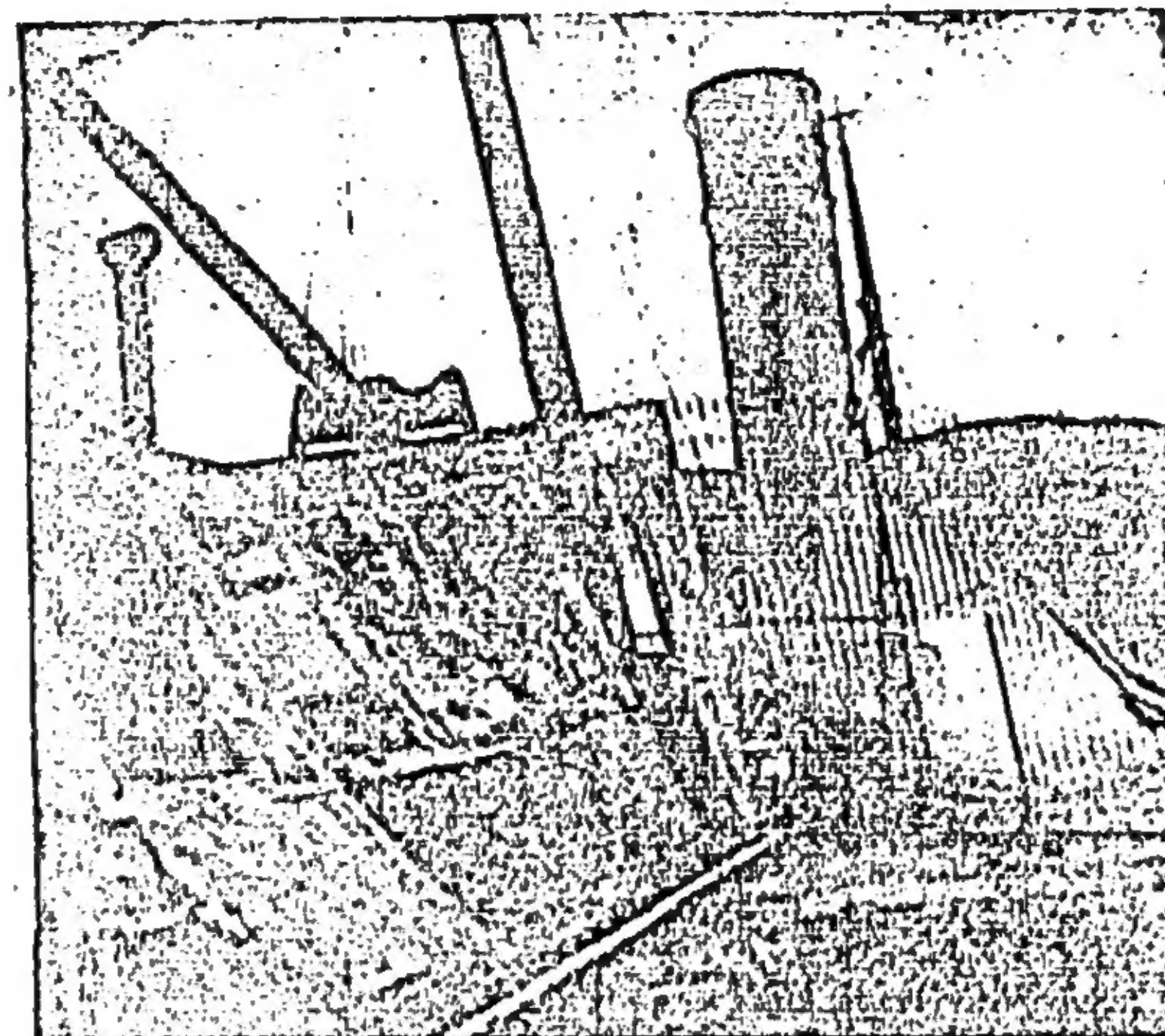
FRANCE'S SHARE

France: the cruisers Attilio Regolo, Pompeo Magno and Scipione Africano (of 3,362 tons), the sloop Eritrea (2,172 tons), the destroyers Legionario, Mitragliere, Velle (1,690 tons each), and the Alfredo Oriani (1,715 tons) and Glinda (865 tons), six motor torpedo boats, three vedettes, five landing craft, the tankers Tarvisio (10,915 tons) and Urano (10,550 tons), four water carriers, one of 1,088 tons, the 915-ton transport Parigalla, eight large tugs, the largest of which is 355 tons, and four small tugs.

Greece: the cruiser Eugenio Di Savoia (7,283 tons) and one water carrier.

Yugoslavia: the torpedo boats Alisco and Indomito (950 tons each) and the Arlecino (700 tons) seven minesweepers of just over 100 tons each, two landing craft, one water carrier, and four large tugs, including one of 226 tons.

(Continued on Page 4)



These two graphic pictures, exclusive to the Telegraph, were taken after fire had completely gutted and destroyed the Hong-kong-Macao steamer, Hsin Kong So last Saturday morning. The steamer caught on fire off Lantau while proceeding to Hongkong with 140 passengers and a crew of 60. Fortunately no lives were lost.

PROBE INTO SHANGHAI RIOTS

Shanghai, Feb. 9.—Two special investigators are expected to arrive this morning from Nanking to conduct a thorough probe into the recent riot staged by cabaret girls and workers at the Bureau of Social Affairs.

The Central Government authorities are said to be taking a serious view of the disturbance and the 12 demonstrators suspected of being the ringleaders who were originally slated to be handed over to the procurator's office on Saturday, are still in police detention cells pending the arrival of the officials.

Meanwhile, it is learned, the judicial administration of the National Defence Ministry is setting up a special court here to handle "extraordinary cases."

This court which is expected to be established at the end of this month, will be run by a number of officials of the Defence Ministry from Nanking.

Members of the Shanghai Garrison Headquarters will also participate in the new tribunal to help settle special cases such as the recent National Tung Chi University riot, the wrecking of the Social Affairs Bureau, the Sung Sing Cotton Mill riot, gold and exchange speculations and big kidnapping cases.

According to Chinese press reports, the formation of the special court was necessitated by the inefficiency of the local judicial organs in handling the various important cases.—Reuter.

BAN TO STAY

Shanghai, Feb. 9.—Reports that the Government authorities were prepared to reconsider the ban on cabarets and ballrooms following the recent rioting in Shanghai by cabaret employees, were denied last night by Mr Chiang Yun-tien, chairman of the special Executive Yuan committee supervising the enforcement of the national austerity drive.

Mr Chiang asserted the Government would carry through its declared policy regarding closing the dance halls throughout the country.

With regard to the future employment for dancing girls, Mr Chiang suggested the cabaret owners convert their establishments into restaurants serving cheap meals and thus create jobs for some of the girls. Mr Chiang also revealed that the Government authorised two cabarets to keep open temporarily in Tientsin for the benefit of members of the American service units stationed at that port.—Reuter.

Burnt-Out Steamer

Tribesmen Mowed Down By Machine-Guns

TWO-DAY KASHMIR BATTLE

Jammu, Kashmir, Feb. 8.—Indian machine-guns mowed down a mass formation of advancing tribesmen raiders at point blank range, when they are estimated to have killed some 2,000 of them in a two-day battle around the town of Naoshera, in western Kashmir.

Indian patrols had recovered 955 bodies of the raiders and more were being brought in after what was described as the bitterest battle yet in the campaign in Jammu province of Kashmir.

The battle began before dawn on Friday when 11,000 Pathans and tribesmen attempted to storm Indian

Army positions in the hills around Naoshera.

All the attacks were repulsed. Hand-to-hand fighting broke out when some raiders penetrated into Indian Army positions.

After the battle, the Indians set out in pursuit and Indian artillery and Air Force caught the raiders on the run, adding heavily to their casualties.

Some of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes were today taken from New Delhi to Jammu, scene of fighting between the tribesmen and Indian forces in southwest Kashmir, New Delhi Radio reported.

At Jammu, the ashes were carried in a mile-long procession led by the local militia, and will be buried near a monument to be set up to the Mahatma's memory.

The other portions of the Mahatma's ashes will be immersed in about 110 holy rivers throughout India and three sacred places on the sea in addition to the main ceremony which took place at Allahabad, where the Jammu and Ganges rivers meet.—Reuter.

MORE RSS ARRESTS

New Delhi, Feb. 8.—The biggest number of arrests so far reported of members of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the militant Hindu organisation, named by the Indian Government last week, was reported today from East Punjab.

Since the roundup began four days ago, 422 members of the RSS have been arrested in the province. Security measures have been tightened in Delhi in the past few days, guards being posted at the residences of all Ministers.

The area in which Pandit Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, and Sardar Patel, the Deputy Premier, occupy neighbouring houses, resembles an armed camp with police and troops guarding gates and grounds, and with tents in front of them.

At the Council House, where the Constituent Assembly meets, armed police are posted every few paces and form a ring round the lobby.—Reuter.

ROUND TABLE TALKS

New York, Feb. 8.—The India and Pakistan delegations will resume private round-table talks on the Kashmir dispute in New York tomorrow, it was learned here tonight.

The Security Council meeting, due tomorrow has been postponed. The date of the next meeting of the Council will depend on the outcome of the Indian-Pakistan talks.—Reuter.

"Dev" Certain To Be Re-Elected Premier

Dublin, Feb. 8.—Political observers here considered it certain today that the majority in the newly-elected Dail Eireann would elect Mr Eamon de Valera, who steered Eire through the difficult war years, to the Premiership once more.

He can rely on securing two seats when the Carlow Kilkenny elections (postponed because of the death of a candidate) are held next week, and will then have 66 seats. He must suffer the loss of one to elect a Speaker for the Dail.

He may secure the support of five National Labour members and four Independents. Of 12 Independent members, none is a convinced opponent of Mr De Valera, though it is possible that four of them may abstain from voting in the election of the Premier on February 18.

STATE OF PARTIES

With all but five Carlow Kilkenny seats decided, the state of the parties at present is: Fianna Fail (De Valera) Party 66; Fine Gael 20; Labour 14; Independents 12. Clann Na Poblachta (New Republican) 10; Farmers seven; National Labour four.

Mr De Valera has seats against a combined Opposition total of 70.

Mr De Valera said last night: "Fianna Fail has made it clear from the first that it does not believe in a coalition and will not participate in any coalition. But if, as the largest party, we are given support to form a government, we will do so."

The general view is that the country has slipped further left and that a link-up between the forces of the Right and the Left has been brought nearer.

Fine Gael may be described as Progressive Republican in the American sense and Fianna Fail as Democratic. The only thing that is keeping the two parties separate is Civil War memories, which Mr De Valera is keen on wiping out.

A fusion between Fianna Fail and Fine Gael, it is said, must eventually

This Week Is Crucial For The Marshall Plan

Washington, Feb. 8.—The progress of the Marshall Plan through Congress will enter a new and possibly crucial stage this week when three developments which may affect the plan's future are expected.

These developments are: 1.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee will tomorrow start secret sessions in which a report on their protracted open hearings will be drawn up and a decision reached whether to cut the funds for the plan.

2.—Mr Lewis Douglas, the United States Ambassador to Britain, who has played a leading part in the formulation of the plan, is preparing to leave for London again, handing over to other State Department personalities, at least temporarily, the task of steering the plan through Congress.

3.—Mr George Marshall, the Secretary of State and the originator of the plan, will travel out to the "grass roots" area of Des Moines, Iowa, to make a speech on Friday in which he is expected to express publicly his concern about the progress of the aid programme through Congress and attempt to rally public opinion in its support.

A key to the Foreign Relations Committee's decision is seen in the belief of its chairman, Senator Arthur Vandenberg, that it is worth

cutting the \$6,000 million appropriation for the first 15 months of the plan if the Committee may recommend a cut of as much as \$1,000 million in the hope that this will placate the opposition who want even heavier cuts.

Mr Douglas is expected to leave for London either at the end of this week or the beginning of the next to lead the Anglo-American-French tripartite economic talks opening on February 19.

During his absence, the leadership of the State Department campaign to push the plan through Congress will be handled mainly by Mr Robert Lovett, the Under-Secretary of State, and Mr Charles Bohlen, Counsellor of the State Department.

Mr Marshall's speech at Des Moines before a farmers' convention may be his most important public statement on his plan since the start of the Congress debate.

It is known that he feels grave concern about the progress of the debate and it is believed he may restate the basic purposes of the programme and give public expression to the fears he has been discussing in private.—Reuter.

Lord Sankey Dead

London, Feb. 8.—Viscount Sankey, Lord Chancellor from 1929 to 1935, died at his home there on Friday. He had been a British Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague since 1930.—Associated Press.

QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M. DAILY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.
FINAL SHOWINGS TO-DAY

THE LUSTY PAGES OF THE GREAT AMERICAN CLASSIC OF HIGH SEAS ADVENTURE SHOWN IN THRILLING MASTERY ACROSS THE SCREEN

"TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST"

From Richard Henry Dana's Famous Story



Alan LADD · Brian DONLEVY
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 — Adapted by ALVA · Screenplay by ALVA · Directed by ALVA —

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CARNIVAL in COSTA RICA
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HUMPHREY BOGART · LIZABETH SCOTT
 in JOHN CROMWELL'S
Dead Reckoning
 A COLUMBIA PICTURE
 with Morris Chevalier, William Wallace, Carnovsky, Kane, Prince, Miller, Ford
 Directed by JOHN CROMWELL · Produced by SIDNEY BIDELL

TO-MORROW
 CHINESE NEW YEAR ATTRACTION

MAKE A DATE WITH DELIGHT!
 ESTHER JOHNSON · WILLIAMS
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 in R.G.M.'S TECHNICOLOR ROMANCE
"Easy to Wed"
 CECIL KELLAWAY · Carlos Ramirez · Ben Blue
 Ethel Smith in THE ORGAS
 Directed by EDWARD DUBZELL
 Produced by JACK CUMMINGS

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

WHAT IS THE BRITISH COUNCIL?

A CERTAIN amount of heat is generated periodically when the finances of the British Council are discussed. People say: "Is it worth while wasting our money in this way?" or "Who and what is this British Council anyway?"

Let us try to discover the replies to these queries.

Take the second point first. The British Council, strictly speaking, is not an official Government department. Although it appears as a major item in the Foreign Office budget, derives the majority of its funds from an Exchequer Grant-in-Aid, and its expenditure is subject to criticism by the House of Commons, its activities are carried out for the most part by unofficial representatives, and the Government of the day, whether Labour or Conservative, makes no attempt to impose partisan politics or philosophical doctrines on it.

Such official financial backing of unofficial enterprise may appear to be yet another of those anomalies so often found in our public life, but, far from being an illogical compromise, it is a combination, guaranteeing as it does adequate funds and independence of action, which is the secret of the Council's strength and success.

Divorced From Politics

For the Council can rightly claim that it is entirely divorced from political and transitory theories, and its representatives are welcomed in countries where suspicion might otherwise be aroused because of differences in the respective systems of government.

Originally established in 1913, the British Council is run by an executive committee of 30 members, of whom nine are nominated by Government departments. Membership is confined to persons of distinction in those aspects of national life with which the Council is concerned. In addition, there are numerous advisory committees on books and periodicals, drama, fine art, music, law, the humanities and science, on which the leading brains in these spheres give their expert opinion.

This organization, which was officially incorporated at James's Palace in July 1935, was incorporated in a Royal Charter in 1940.

which was renewed in 1946 for another five years.

Its chairman is Sir Ronald Adam, wartime Adjutant-General to the Forces; it has a staff of some 3,000; and it spends some £2,500,000 to £3,000,000 of public money every year, building a bridge of knowledge and understanding between Britain and the outside world.

Yet its work is known to but a minute proportion of the taxpayers who pay for it, and some of these few misunderstand it. More often than not, it is confused with the various official information services and activities of Press Attaches abroad, and there is an impression that it can ill afford in these austere days.

Contrary to the Government's propaganda agencies, the Council is concerned only with educational, cultural and scientific work, and no one who has resided or served abroad would consider its activities ineffective or a luxury.

In the past century, Britain has earned a wide reputation in the cultural and financial spheres. Our military prestige is high. But it is a fact that our actions have generally been misunderstood abroad, our objects cynically misrepresented, with resulting international friction. Also, other nations, notably France, have successfully publicized their achievements in the branches of art and science, music, medicine and science, and up to World War 2 the French held the cultural lead in foreign opinion, with the considerable moral and material advantages deriving from it.

British Way Of Life

UNTIL the Council was formed, no real effort had been made to tell the world that the British way of life is as far from decadence, in culture as it had been in courage, morale, resource and belligerence in war, or to explain the evolution of our system of government and social life over the past 19 centuries. Yet it is only by removing the barriers of cultural isolation that our position can be better appreciated and our motives understood. And today, due largely to the interest in the qualities which enabled Britain to stand alone in 1940, never has the world been more eager to learn about Britain.

The Council works chiefly through 53 Institutes spread over the Middle Eastern and Mediterranean countries, 40 Anglophil Societies in Latin

Many scholarships have been granted by the Council to students from Hongkong and China to study in Britain. Just lately ZBW received a gift of over 500 records from the same source. But many people are still unsure of the aims and activities of the Council. This article answers some of these queries.

By
SYDNEY REDWOOD

America by giving every encouragement to foreigners to learn English, today the chief international language; by granting financial assistance to British schools abroad; selecting suitable teachers for foreign universities and schools; running courses for instructors, providing scholarships or facilities for promising overseas students in British universities and industrial training centres; by distributing books, film documentaries, sheet music and recordings; through the publication of cultural and scientific magazines; by holding exhibitions in many parts of the world, and by organising tours of distinguished lecturers, theatre companies and orchestras.

Notable sponsored tours of late have been the Sadler's Wells Ballet to Scandinavia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Belgium; an exhibition of modern British art in Scandinavia; the Boyd-Neel Orchestra in Australia (where the Old Vic Company will soon be playing); and a collection of Tate Gallery paintings in nine European capitals.

John Barbiroli, Arthur Piers, Sir Adrian Boult, Sir Malcolm Sargent and Constant Lambert have been among our leading conductors to appear abroad.

The Ballet's tour in particular was a triumph.

Drunks' Immunity Points To . . . NEW THEORY OF DISEASE

By
A. LAWRENCE

TWO men, one drunk, the other sober, fall down stairs. The drunk gets up, slightly bruised, the other has to be taken away in an ambulance. Two loaded cars collide, and the only person who escapes serious injury is a drunken passenger in one of them.

Doctors have long been baffled by this phenomenon, which happens too often to be ascribed to coincidence, while guarding angels would hardly take such special care of intoxicated men. One theory is that a state of muscular relaxation produces partial immunity to injury. It is pointed out that children and animals share with drunks the ability to "fall soft" and escape damage.

Nervous tension, on the other hand, causes bones to break and organs to suffer as a result of accidents.

It's just the difference between dropping an electric light globe and a piece of elastic. One happens to be relaxed.

Soviet scientists are now experimenting with this theory, taken to its logical conclusion: if the partial relaxation of alcohol produces partial immunity to injury, they say, what will be the effect of the total relaxation of anaesthesia?

The test the idea they conducted a number of experiments on cats at the Leningrad Naval Medical Academy.

A lethal dose of potassium cyanide, one of the deadliest of poisons, were given to two groups of cats, one normal and awake, the other asleep with anaesthesia.

The normal group died instantly, but those under the anaesthetic suffered no ill effects.

Their nervous systems had been "deadened" so that the body was unable to react, the poison was neutralised and had been excreted from the body by the time the animals came out of their artificial sleep.

Epilepsy, a disease of the central nervous system which attacks the brain, can also be brought under control by anaesthesia.

Russian researchers induced epilepsy in 20 cats and then, by infecting them with deadly doses of camphor oil and bile. Violent fits followed, and in all cases the animals died.

Then similar injections were given to a number of animals under anaesthesia. These showed not the slightest signs of the disease.

At the same time it was observed that the brain cells of the dead animals were noticeably damaged.

So the scientists stopped the epileptic process in a cat, after the eighteenth fit, by administering an anaesthetic. Cat was unconscious for three and a half hours, then awakened showing no signs of the disease. It was killed and not the slightest trace of brain cell destruction by epilepsy could be found.

So the scientists concluded that anaesthesia not only prevented fits, but also enabled the brain cells to return to normal after partial destruction.

IS anaesthesia equally effective on humans? Experiments now going on indicate that the answer is yes.

A sailor was brought to hospital with serious burns. His condition was critical. Shock of cleaning and treating the raw flesh might easily have proved fatal.

A naval doctor put the patient to sleep and successfully completed treatment. Then, to prevent shock, he kept him under anaesthesia for several days. Result: a satisfactory recovery.

An eight-year-old girl had the beginning of tetanus—an almost incurable and usually fatal disease. She was treated for eight days under partial anaesthesia—with complete success.

How was this cure effected? "Chance explanation of disease and its cure is that the body reacts by mobilising its protective forces to combat the microbes. It was believed that without these reactions the disease would develop unhampered.

Soviet scientists have discarded this theory. They say that the body's reaction to microbes is not a defence against disease, but the disease itself.

If there is no reaction to disease microbes, the person attacked would be well and normal. All the trouble is caused by the body's reaction. Where there is no reaction, there is no disease.

In other words the reaction is not a protection against the disease, but the disease itself!

These reactions are produced and directed by the central nervous system, the brain. And when the brain is asleep, the reaction fails to occur and disease is prevented.

SOVIET scientists are now exploring further possibilities of their discovery. In future, a man nearing death from poisoning will, the researchers predict, be put to sleep with ether. When he awakes he will be cured, for the poison will have abandoned his body and the usual reaction will have been prevented.

These hitherto unknown aspects of anaesthesia lead to another possibility, which at first sight seems fantastic.

Say if the central nervous system could be relaxed sufficiently to prevent the body from producing a disease reaction, but not to the point of rendering the person unconscious?

It seems that such a person would be totally immune to illness and many kinds of accidents—probably at some cost to his powers of rational thought.

Would YOU think the price too high?

In Warsaw, they had 12 curtain-calls on the opening night; in Oslo, 1,000 people queued all night for the box office to open, while Prague Opera House was crowded at every performance.

Of the Boyd-Neel orchestra, press comment remarked: "People who thought of Britain as a down and out nation living a dreary poverty-stricken life, sat up in some surprise on discovering that it could produce an orchestra at the top of its class in the world."

And another Australian paper, discussing the general activities of the Council, remarked: "It is doing more to gain goodwill, to dissipate prejudice, and to spread understanding of the spirit and genius of a nation than whole platoons of weary politicians who flit from conference to conference."

To offset the criticism that too much effort is concentrated on the highbrows and on the capitals of foreign countries, the Council is now widening its influence through contacts with workers' educational movements and with study groups in smaller towns. It is also providing short-term bursaries to enable trades unionists, artisans and apprentices to visit Britain to meet their fellows and study conditions of work in our factories. And its youth camps in 1946-47 were attended by over 1,100 young people from 21 different countries.

Work In Wartime

WHEN the war brought to Britain shores so many Allied servicemen, seamen and civilians, the Council seized its opportunity. To help them to get to know and understand us, 23 offices and centres were opened throughout the United Kingdom, and the Council also co-operated with over 300 clubs and societies for our British people.

One wartime project was over 400,000 visits a year to the Council Houses in Liverpool and Cardiff alone, many of them being seamen who in the past had seen little of Britain beyond the docks. Well over 10,000 Dominion soldiers and GIs attended leave courses at Universities and elsewhere on subjects ranging from Scottish education at St. Andrews and medical research in Belfast to the training of milkmen in Devon.

The Council also came closely into touch with the Poles in Scotland, the Chinese in Liverpool, Belgian refugees in the West, Mad in communities in South Wales and Newfoundlanders in the Highlands.

The Council Houses on Tyne, Mersey and Clyde-side have been maintained, and have been opened in Bristol; they have become a recognised part in the cities' life.

Cultural Leadership

BRITAIN today has lost her pre-eminent position in the world of finance and industry. But she has a unique opportunity of assuming and holding a position of moral and cultural leadership. Though much ground remains to be covered before the gap of ignorance about her true position can be filled, the British Council, by holding our artistic treasures and enabling the whole world to share in it, is playing an important part towards the realisation of this aim.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

WHEN I was Manager of the Huxtable Public Baths, which I may say, we ran at a loss by changing the water twice a day except on Sundays, and by having expensive sham rocks made for the deep end—when I was in this enviable position we used to hold a Philatelic Rally in the Theatre Royal, to raise funds.

The memory of all this came back to me while I was reading about the great Stamp Jamboree, Galt and Tombs at present going on with true Islington favour and total disregard of the improprieties. As that fat collector, Mr. Elyon Spence, said to me in the Fourpenny Turkish pavillion at Grinzling in 1934: "When a man and a woman meet at a Philatelic Congress, sex hides its ugly head."

His point of view

Working on the modern principle that the best way to get rid of a persistent admirer is to marry him, Vita Brevis does really seem to be contemplating this step. The couple are seen together everywhere, and Fourpenny has toned himself down a bit, and eschewed his outrageous sense of humour. The

following passage of a letter to Dr. Smart-Allick of Nurkover throws light on the Captain's state of mind.

So keep your fingers crossed, the bird is almost in the net, and I am being the soul of discretion and respectability. Black market butter will only just melt in my mouth. She is as full of money as a cheese is of nits. Beauty and wealth together simply knock me out, but I can honestly say that I would marry her if she were the ugliest woman on earth. I've told her that I don't love her, for her beauty alone—adding, "That will fade."

Her point of view Vita's state of mind may be seen in this passage from a letter to her Aunt Sybil.

I'm sure that he will not continue to lead a wild life when he has a decent home, and I notice already signs that he can be normal and sensible when he wants to. What people take for evil in him is possibly only irresponsible high spirits. He has never grown up. When I told him that he said: "Call me Peter Pan." He certainly seems to have a good deal of money, and if we could get Meddall back into the family, it would be marvellous. Naturally, I let him go on thinking that I am wealthy.

POCKET CARTOON by OSBERT LANCASTER



Van Gogh keeps 'em queueing to the end

BY JOHN MACADAM

LONDON, Jan. 13. ONE of the more remarkable phenomena of the English sporting season will be observable tomorrow for the last time—the battle of Britain with Culture.

By way of being a bit of a Culture Kid ourselves, we lined up outside the Tate Gallery, Millbank, London, precisely on ten o'clock yesterday morning, and found a queue of up to 1,000 already knocking on the gates of enlightenment.

Three of them to whom we addressed ourselves affably: "Do you like Vincent Van Gogh?" said: "Who?" and one corrected us: "Oh... Van Gogh." Pronunciations varied from Van Goff, Van Go, Van Goot, and simply Guff. One adolescent (female) said "Vinsang," affectionately.

It is fairly obvious, we were in the middle of what looked like a mile-long queue, and moving slowly forward, inch at a time. Ten-thirty-five, a Rolls arrived, deposited a large lady who looked at the crowd through a lorgnette. She said, "Oh, dear!" got back in and drove off, cultureless.

STAMPEDE This promised to turn out one of the big days in British art, and at any moment we anticipated the arrival of naked-shouldered men selling sunflower favours. These had not materialised by the time we were rushed into the Tate by a stampede of schoolboys just before eleven.

If the outside culturists were an orderly crowd, those inside crowded on the Twickenham principle. Children were in the proportion of two to one adult.

One, playing tag among the crowd, was asked why he had come. "I was took," he said, and wove his way off into the game.

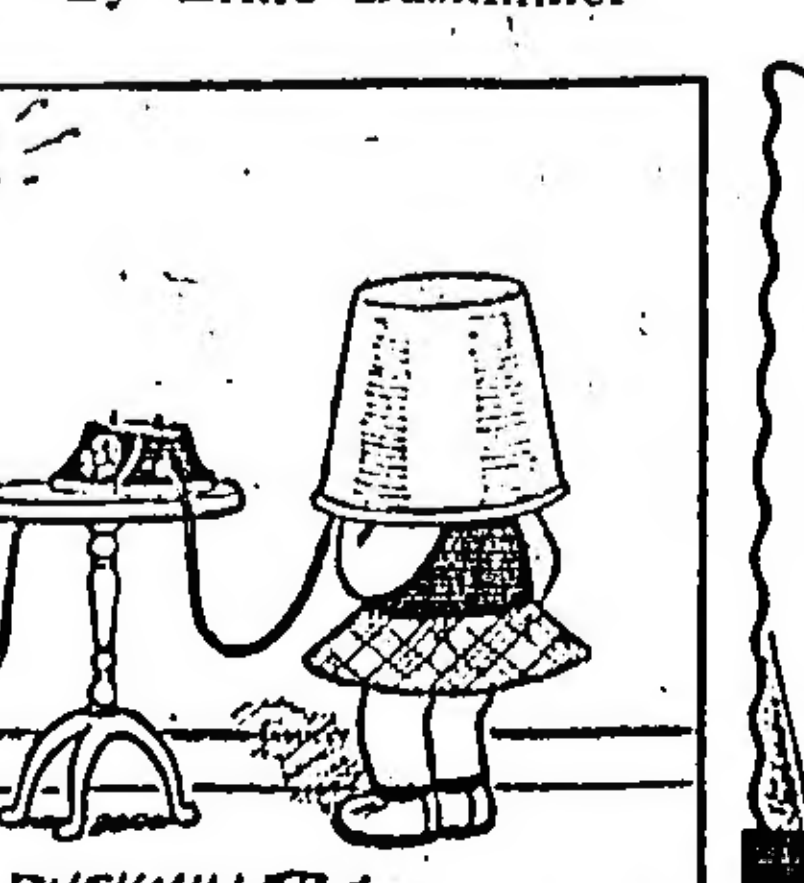
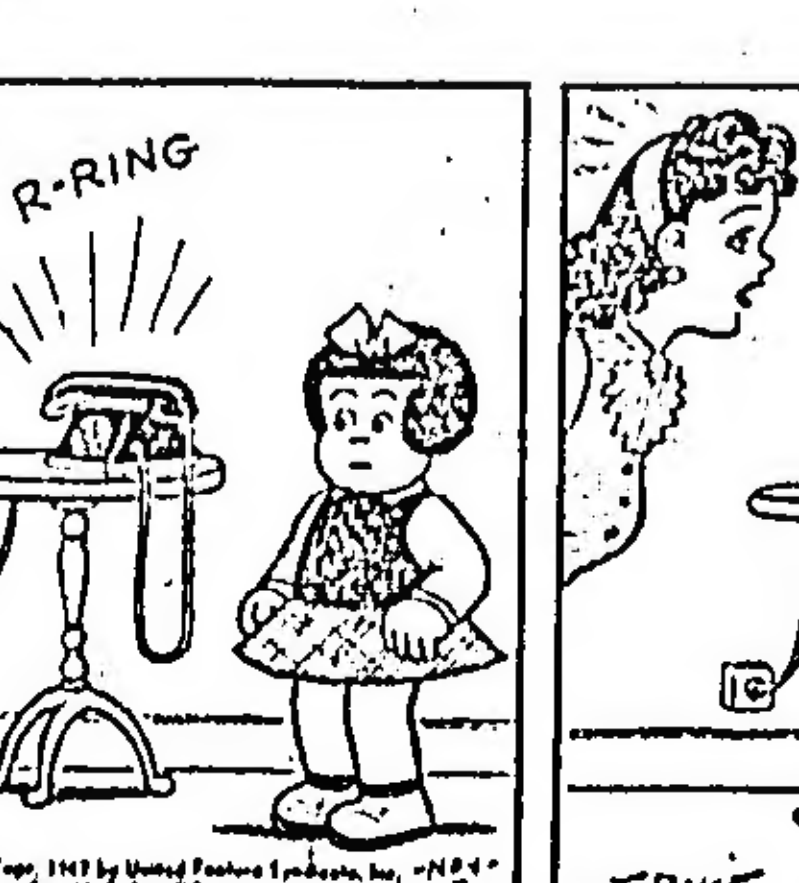
Another said: "E cut 'is ear off, didn't he?"

When the doors closed last night about 135,000 people, had seen the exhibition; the floor told us likely to be 140,000. This probably beats anything that has happened in London since the Great Exhibition.

The exhibition closes tomorrow, next goes to Birmingham, and Glasgow for three weeks each, then back to Holland.

Many of the strangely vitalised crowd inside didn't care about that. They took the majestic colour away with them.

NANCY Portable Booth



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DUCK-BILLED DINOSAUR IN NEW JERSEY

Philadelphia, Feb. 8.—Discovery of the fossil bones of a duck-billed dinosaur which roamed New Jersey's coastal area 60,000,000 years ago was announced by the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences today.

The rare find was made near Sewell, New Jersey, where the Academy unearthed the first partial skeleton of a dinosaur to be found in the United States 90 years ago.

The Sewell bones are those of a 30-foot hadrosaurus, a plant-eating dinosaur which lived during the end of the age of reptiles, long before man appeared on earth.—United Press.

AMERICAN ATTITUDE ON KOREA

Lake Success, Feb. 8.—An American spokesman said today the United States will demand that the Korean Commission complete its task regardless of left wing and Russian opposition.

He said this will be the position the U.S. will take when the Little Assembly considers the Korean question on February 24.

He acknowledged that Russia's refusal even to admit the Commission to the Northern (Soviet) zone barred any action there by the Commission. But, the spokesman added, nothing has occurred in the Southern zone which would prevent the Commission from expediting the creation of an independent Korean government as ordered by the U.N. Assembly last November.

The US took the lead in favour of the Korean Commission in the Assembly. Russia fought it at every step and finally boycotted it. The case will come before the Little Assembly when the Commission reports its failure to enter the Soviet zone.

Secretary of State General, said he is reading press dispatches relating to the Korean disturbances with close attention, but he has declined to talk about the case pending official reports.—Associated Press.

FRENCH REDS PARADE

Paris, Feb. 8.—Carrying banners proclaiming "Peace with Vietnam" and "We want democratic taxation," Paris Communists and members of the left wing political and trade union movements today marched from the Place de la Bastille to the Place de la République to commemorate the revolution of 1848 and the Stavisky riots of February 1934, which brought about the downfall of the government.

Crowds cheered the demonstrators, who also carried drawings of scenes during the 1848 revolution. Among the marchers were prominent Communist leaders, including Maurice Thorez, Jacques Duclos and Marcel Cachin.

The groups represented included the Union of Frenchwomen, the National Front, the France-Union Movement, and associations of deportees, resistance patriots and ex-servicemen.—Reuter.

NOTICE

ST. PAUL'S OLD BOYS UNION
Annual Ball

The Annual Ball of this Union will be held in the Gripps of the Hongkong Hotel, on Tuesday, the 24th of February, 1948, at 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. There will be Music for Dancing played by the Hongkong Hotel Orchestra, Hawaiian Music by Mr. George Pearson and his Beach Boys, and Floorshows by local Artists. Tickets are available at the Hongkong Hotel Reception Desk, King's Theatre Booking Office, Wing On Bank, The Sun Co., Sincere Co., Ltd., China Emporium, Dragon Seed Co., Man Cheong (Gloucester Arcade), Chang Brothers (King's Theatre Building) or apply to the Secretary (Imperial Trading Company, King's Theatre Building, Tel. 28209). All Old Boys of our Union, and members of our families & friends are cordially invited to attend this function.

SOLOMON MA,

Hon. Secretary, S.P.O.B.U.,
c/o Imperial Trading Co.,
King's Theatre Bldg.,
Tel:—28209.

AID TO CHINA PROVISIONS

Well Kept Secret

BY STEWARD HENSLEY

Washington, Feb. 8.—One of the best kept secrets in Washington this week-end is just how the United States intends spending the approximately \$570,000,000 aid for China which it will seek from Congress.

There is considerable speculation over how much will be earmarked for commodities and reconstruction equipment, and whether the plan envisages any military aid or cash for currency stabilisation.

Authoritative official sources say there is no possibility whatever of present of the Chinese receiving any currency stabilisation money in addition to the \$570,000,000 general aid programme for 15 months beginning on April 1. However, they do not rule out the possibility that some cash for this purpose may be included in the \$570,000,000 programme.

There has been considerable difference of opinion between Chinese and American officials over the question of the effectiveness of any United States money for currency stabilisation in China. Chinese here are known to have committed requests for a stabilisation loan of \$500,000,000 to \$500,000,000. They contend they can "make a good start" towards remedying the chaotic monetary situation with that amount.

However, most American authorities have been dubious, asserting that it would take much more and still might have no appreciable effect thus resulting in a sheer waste of money.

Put Into Commodities?

Earlier this week, reports current here had it that the entire China aid programme would be put into commodities. However, the fact that these reports stemmed from the same allegedly official sources which released erroneous figures for the China programme as a whole cast doubt on their accuracy.

In addition, it was pointed out that \$570,000,000 was an extremely large figure for the purchase of commodities for a little more than a year, when most commodities the Chinese really needed, such as wheat, petroleum and rice, were in extremely short supply. All these factors led observers to speculate that the \$570,000,000 programme could include a sizable amount in cash or a goodly supply of military aid.

The State Department's disclosure of the amount of aid it was to provide China is the first step in a complete reversal of policy towards that country since late 1946 and early 1947, when President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall asserted that no aid would go to China because of the "unreliable" nature of the government. It included other political elements.

Basic Fact

Whatever might have been the considerations involved, the basic fact is that the Administration is now definitely committed to a multi-million dollar programme for China.

WINTER OLYMPICS:

SWISS AND SWEDES SHARE HONOURS

St Moritz, Feb. 8.—Sweden and Switzerland were the most successful nations in the fifth Winter Olympiad which ended here today if all six placements alone are considered, but in the matter of gold, silver and bronze medals, Norway did as well as her neighbour Sweden, each country gaining four gold medals, three silver and three bronze.

The only events which took place today were the military ski patrol race, which fell to Switzerland after an exciting contest, and the concluding stages of the ice hockey tournament.

The Olympiad began under the shadow of an ice hockey dispute which for days threatened the whole Olympiad, and closed in a blinding snowstorm after an ice hockey game to decide the Olympic hockey champions under conditions which made play farcical.

St Moritz experienced the worst weather in the last 20 years during the Olympiad, and conditions during the last two days were appalling. It was by only going ahead regardless of the weather that the games were able to be finished on time.

Many officials had visions of a repetition of the last Olympiad held in St Moritz in 1928, when weather conditions caused some events to remain unfinished.

The weather and the hockey dispute caused concern from the first of the ten-day Olympiad to the last, and so it will not go down in history as one of the great successes like the last winter Olympiad held 12 years ago at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, in Bavaria, which went off without a hitch.

Deficit Feared

Even the Swiss Organising Committee will be worrying over the balance sheets for some days to

POPE WANTS ATOM POWER FOR PEACE

Rome, Feb. 8.—Pope Pius XII, calling the atomic bomb "the most terrible arm the human mind thus far has conceived," urged today that the use of atomic energy for warlike purposes be outlawed.

In a scholarly address before the Pontifical Academy of Science, he warned and praised those who had harnessed atomic energy and those, extending 100 years back, whose pioneer work made harnessing possible.

"What disasters should humanity await from a future conflict if it should prove impossible to halt or brake the use of new and more scientific inventions," the Pope said. He pointed out that man's knowledge of the domination of atom so far has not been completed, though a way has been found to unleash its energy.

The Pope expressed the hope that atomic energy be used solely for peace and "give to the progress of civilisation its rich resources of energy." He said: "It is an admirable conquest of the human intellect. Could there be a more noble conquest?"

He spoke for 35 minutes to 400 persons, including members of the Pontifical Academy of Science from many nations, about 20 Cardinals and a few members of the diplomatic corps. He wore a white robe and spoke in Italian. After the speech, he discussed scientific matters informally with members of the Academy.—United Press.

SITTING ON THE FENCE

Because of the Chinese New Year holiday, Nationalist Gubbins' popular Wednesday feature, "Sitting On The Fence," will appear in Thursday's issue of the "Telegraph."

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers
1. Statehood. 2. Counting the corpses in a given volume of blood to compare with a standard. 3. The market. 4. Damascus, capital of Syria. 5. The root of the white. 6. "In the beginning."

and the next question is what Congress will do.

Compassionate criticism of the global aid programme, which now totals \$9,323,000,000 for the coming year, is mounting. There is no doubt that the overall figure will be reduced. Whether the reduction will be at the expense of China, or whether the China programme will come through intact at the expense of the European and Middle East request, only time can tell.—United Press.



"We'd like to see something in a blue serge with nice deep pistol pockets."

WFTU REBUKED BY BRITISH LABOUR

London, Feb. 8.—A firm rebuke to the headquarters in Paris of the World Federation of Trade Unions was made today by Arthur Deakin, General Secretary of the British Transport and General Workers Union, as President of the Union.

He was commenting on a memorandum issued at the headquarters yesterday, saying that a majority of the other member bodies of the Executive Committee had rejected the Trades Union Congress request for a mid-February meeting to discuss the Marshall Plan.

Mr. Deakin issued a statement to Reuter, declaring: "The statement issued from the headquarters of the WFTU is an evasion of the request put up by the TUC. This did not ask for a meeting of the Executive Committee but for a meeting of the Executive Bureau which, in any case, was due to meet in the ordinary way not later than the end of February."

"Two decisions were taken at the Paris meeting of the Bureau held in November—one to hold the next meeting before the end of February, the other to hold a conference of the Trades Secretariat not later than the middle of January."

Completely Misleading

"Both these decisions, it seems, are now to be ignored," following discussion between the Secretary General and representatives of the All-Central Council of Soviet Unions.

"The suggestion in the Paris statement that a majority of the members of the Bureau have turned down the request of the British TUC is completely misleading."

"It was only when the Soviet representatives, refused to attend that the others changed their opinion."

"The fact is that there is and has been a refusal to discuss the American aid proposal. This has been quite clear since the first of January."

LAST OF THE ITALIAN FLEET

(Continued on Page 4)

Albania: the gunboat Lilliria, of 654 tons.
Under the terms of the Italian peace treaty, the warships must be handed over fully equipped, in operational condition, including a full outfit of armament stores and complete with on-board spare parts and all necessary technical data.

The Italian fleet of submarines was not included in the allocations to the Allies.

Early this year, the "Big Four" Naval Commission decided, in Rome, that Russia should return to Britain and the United States the warships lent to her by those two powers during the war. These warships included the HMS Royal Sovereign, seven destroyers and three submarines, and the USS Milwaukee, all of which were lent under the Yalta Agreement.

ITALY'S NEW FLEET

Almost immediately, however, it was stated that Russia would hold on to the return of these ships until the Italian warships, allocated to Russia, had been delivered to Soviet ports. The Italian people have always considered the naval clauses of the peace treaty as the most dishonourable part of it. Italian naval men have maintained that they were welcomed, with flags flying, when they entered Allied ports to join the Allies, and that to have to surrender their ships to the Allies now is an injustice.

With the allocation of the ships to the Allies, announced tonight Italy will be left with a fleet consisting of: two battleships—the Andrea Doria and Ceto Doria, four cruisers—the Lulio, Di Savoia, Duca degli Abruzzi, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Rinaldo Montecucoli and the Lulio Cadorna, four destroyers, 15 torpedo boats, 20 corvettes, 35 minesweepers, eight vedettes, 64 auxiliary vessels and one training ship, three transporters, a supply ship, a repair ship, two surveying ships, a lighthouse service vessel, and a cable ship.

The peace treaty limited the total personnel of the Italian Navy to 25,000 officers and men, and laid down that no battleship, aircraft carrier, submarine or assault craft should be constructed or acquired or replaced by Italy.—Reuter.

Political Body

"If, therefore, the position is now that the WFTU is to be merely a political body dealing with those questions acceptable to the USSR, we know how we stand."

"In other words, if there is to be a line-up of those national centres accepting the policy laid down by the Cominform against those who do not, then the decision must be regarded as a reversal of the policy laid down by the London and Paris conference of the WFTU, which sought to establish a world trade union unity on the broadest possible basis of mutual help."

"The British trade union movement expects an international body to act impartially, providing a forum for discussion on any subject affecting its constituents and stilling discussion on none."—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

On Tuesday, February 10, 1948, the General Post Office and Kowloon Central Post Office will open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. for sale of stamps only. The other General Post Offices will be entirely closed. There will be no delivery or collection from pillar boxes.

On Wednesday, February 11, the General Post Office and Kowloon Central Post Office will open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The other General Post Offices will open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. There will be one delivery of registered and ordinary correspondence and one collection only from pillar boxes of 10 a.m.

The Money Order Office will be entirely closed during the holidays.
Unless otherwise stated, registered parcels and parcels post close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. It mail close 10 a.m. registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. on previous days.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Closing Times By Air:
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Canton, Luchow, Kowloon, Hanoi and Swatow 3.30 p.m.

Closing Times By Sea and Train:
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 2 p.m.
Hong Kong (Sea) 2 p.m.
Saigon, Straits & Calcutta (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila and Colombo (Sea) 4 p.m.
Macao, Fuzhou & Shantou (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Train) 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Closing Times By Air:
Amoy, Shanghai 9.30 a.m.
Hong Kong, Hanoi, Calcutta, Karachi, Bombay, Ceylon, Madras, Java, Singapore & Malacca via Cebu 10 a.m.
London & London (Kowloon C.P.O.) 10 a.m.
(C.P.O.) 10 a.m.

Closing Times By Sea and Train:
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking & Swatow 10 a.m.

Closing Times By Air:
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Canton, Luchow, Kowloon, Hanoi and Swatow 3.30 p.m.

TO-DAY'S RADIO

H.K.T.
6. Studio: Hospital Request Half Hour presented by E. H. H. Brown; 6.30. Xavier Cugat and His Waldorf Astoria Hotel Orchestra; 6.45. Studio: Jill Lapper; 7.00. On Film: 7. London Relay; World Music; 7.15. Studio: "I Like What I Like" Presented by Helen Dew; 7.45. Future: Elton; 8. Boston Symphony Orchestra; 8.25. BBC Transcription Service: "The Passing of Crab Village"; 9.25. Gilbert and Sullivan: "Trial by Jury"; 10.00. Studio: "The Opera Comp."; 10.10. London Relay: News; 10.15. Weather Report; 10.20. Studio: "A Talk by R. A. Watson: 'You and Your Camera'; 10.25. Dance to Victor Silvester and His Orchestra; 10.45. London Relay: "What is Art For?" Eric Newton interviews David Low; the World famous "Caricaturalist"; 10. London Relay: Radio News; 10.15. "Something for Everybody" Music for All Tastes; 11. Close Down.

BBC PROGRAMME

Transmission in the BBC General Overseas Service which may be heard in Hongkong this evening.

GMT
10.00—World of work; 10.15—Dance music (Gramophone records); 10.30—Music while you work; 11.00—The music; 11.10—Home news from Britain; 11.20—The music; 11.30—The to-day's papers; 12.10—Interlude; 12.15—Sporting records; 12.45—Her Leopold and the news; 1.00—The news; 1.10—The news; 1.20—The news; 1.30—The news; 1.45—The news; 1.55—The news; 2.00—The news; 2.15—The news; 2.30—The news; 2.45—The news; 3.00—The news; 3.15—The news; 3.30—The news; 3.45—The news; 4.00—The news; 4.15—The news; 4.30—The news; 4.45—The news; 5.00—The news; 5.15—The news; 5.30—The news; 5.45—The news; 6.00—The news; 6.15—The news; 6.30—The news; 6.45—The news; 7.00—The news; 7.15—The news; 7.30—The news; 7.45—The news; 8.00—The news; 8.15—The news; 8.30—The news; 8.45—The news; 9.00—The news; 9.15—The news; 9.30—The news; 9.45—The news; 10.00—The news; 10.15—The news; 10.30—The news; 10.45—The news; 11.00—The news; 11.15—The news; 11.30—The news; 11.45—The news; 12.00—The news; 12.15—The news; 12.30—The news; 12.45—The news; 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